

REMARKS

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103

The applicants have amended independent claims 1, 8, and 14, and added new claims 20-29. The claims define access control technology that presents working queries in response to execution of entertainment software or other access controlled programs. Based on the answers to the question, the access control technology may allow access to the access controlled programs. In addition, the claimed access control technology supports connecting to a working query server, obtaining selected working queries, and adding the selected working queries to a database of working queries established locally.

The new claims 20-29 define additional features of the access control technology. For example, an access hierarchy may control access to configuration options for the access control application. As another example, the access control application may access, for comparison and evaluation purposes, working query scoring and statistics data gathered on a server. In addition, working queries may be conveniently exchanged with others through a working query exchange server.

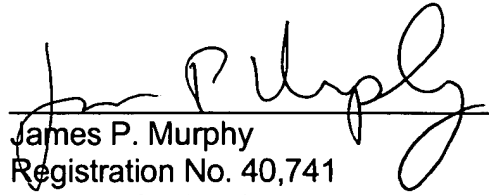
No cited reference teaches or suggests the claimed subject matter. Furthermore, the asserted combination of Weyer and Ho(1) or Ho(2), even assuming motivation to make such a combination, fails to teach or suggest the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of the pending claims.

II. Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are allowable. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned via telephone if the Examiner has any

questions, comments, or concerns, or if a telephone conference would expedite examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,


James P. Murphy
Registration No. 40,741
Attorney for Applicant

McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.
500 West Madison Street
34th Floor
Chicago, IL 60661
Phone: (312) 775-8000